

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Ninth Plymouth Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Ninth Plymouth Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.3% (3,134) reside in the Ninth Plymouth Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (595) of Ninth Plymouth Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 71% of admissions from the Ninth Plymouth Representative District were male and 28.9% were female.
- Over 65.5% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 62.8% of admissions were white non-Latino, 19.9% were black non-Latino, 11.3% were Latino, 0.3% were Asians, and 5.5% were other racial categories.
- 63.6% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 13.4% were married, and 15.3% reported not to be married now.
- 36.5% of admissions had less than high school education, 49.1% completed high school, and 14.2% had more than high school education.
- 24.7% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 20.2% of those admitted were homeless.
- 13.7% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

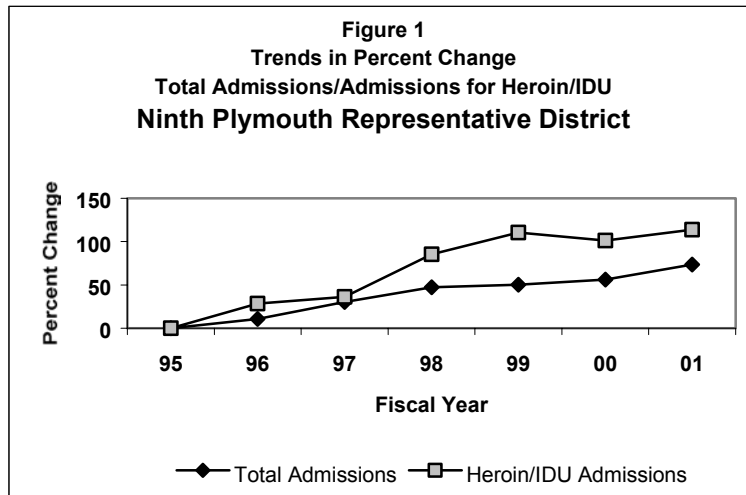
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Ninth Plymouth Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Ninth Plymouth Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	1,807	1,483	442	796	344	434	308
FY '96	1,999	1,647	552	847	490	554	399
FY '97	2,357	1,969	693	821	542	602	410
FY '98	2,662	2,134	670	817	482	821	553
FY '99	2,713	2,177	766	893	593	920	643
FY '00	2,824	2,199	789	879	627	910	582
FY '01	3,134	2,389	927	1,044	658	984	602

- Since FY 1995, residents of Ninth Plymouth Representative District reported a steady increase across all the drug categories.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting alcohol use increased by 61%, marijuana by 109%, cocaine by 31%, crack by 91%, and heroin use by 126%.

Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Ninth Plymouth Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV¹.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 73.4% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 131%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Ninth Plymouth Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	50.8 %	25.5%	7.8%	7.2%	5.0%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While heroin as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, and crack was higher within your District.

¹ The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000